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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

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Application Number	09/829,587
Filing Date	April 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	P. Laptsev
Art Unit	1763
Examiner Name	R. Zervigon
Attorney Docket Number	SPUTT-56141

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

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|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>POSTCARD |
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Remarks

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	ELLSWORTH R. ROSTON, ESQ., REG. NO. 16,310 FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP
Signature	<i>Ellsworth R. Roston</i>
Date	OCTOBER 24, 2003

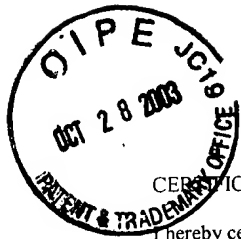
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Signature	<i>Ellsworth R. Roston</i>	Date	OCTOBER 24, 2003

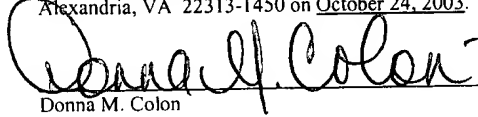
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Donna M. Colon

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Inventor: Laptev, P.

Serial No. 09/829,587

Filed: April 9, 2001

For: SYSTEM FOR, AND METHOD OF,  
ETCHING A SURFACE ON A WAFER

Examiner: Zervigon, R.

Group Art Unit: 1763

Confirmation No.: 7932

Client ID/Matter No.: SPUTT-56141

Date: October 24, 2003

Los Angeles, California 90045

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

This Amendment is response to the Office Action of 07/11/03. Please amendment and reconsider the above-referenced application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please change the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In combination for etching an insulating layer in a wafer to present a clean and fresh surface on the insulating layer for deposition,  
a conduit for molecules of an inert gas,